

Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 96

RESOLUTION CHAPTER 129

Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 96—Relative to Tall Ships Festival 2008.

[Filed with Secretary of State September 7, 2006.]

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

ACR 96, Saldana. Tall Ships Festival 2008.

This measure would congratulate the host ports and related nonprofit organizers for their efforts relative to hosting the Tall Ships Festival 2008. The measure would invite the tall ships of the world to the event, and to continue to visit California.

WHEREAS, Beginning in 1976, numerous tall ships from around the world were invited to participate in the celebration of our country's Bicentennial in tall ships festivals along the eastern seaboard, and added greatly to the Bicentennial celebration; and

WHEREAS, In 1986, 22 international tall ships prominently participated in the Statue of Liberty Centennial celebration; and

WHEREAS, In 1992, numerous tall ships from around the world sailed in the Columbus Quincentennial commemorating the 500-year anniversary of Columbus' voyage to the New World; and

WHEREAS, The eastern seaboard has regularly hosted international tall ships festivals in the last 30 years, resulting in increased historical appreciation of the maritime contributions to our country and stimulation of local economies of the major ports where the festivals are held; and

WHEREAS, In 1999, during California's Sesquicentennial celebration, tall ships from maritime nations around the world visited the California ports of San Francisco, Los Angeles, and San Diego to participate in the Tall Ships Challenge and Festival of Sail; and

WHEREAS, Beginning with California's Sesquicentennial in 1999, tall ships from the navies of many countries including the Esmeralda (Chile), Gloria (Colombia), Guayas (Ecuador), Amerigo Vespucci (Italy), Kaiwo Maru II (Japan), Nippon Maru (Japan), Cuauhtemoc (Mexico), Europa (The Netherlands), Juan Sebastián de Elcano (Spain), Batkishvna (Ukraine), and the USCG Eagle (United States) have visited California's ports; and

WHEREAS, These tall ships were joined in the celebrations by other nongovernmental foreign tall ships, as well as tall ships from California and other states; and

WHEREAS, Since 1999, the California ports of San Francisco, Los Angeles, and San Diego have hosted two other gatherings of tall ships

from around the world in 2002 and 2005, that commemorated and celebrated this state's rich maritime heritage and the maritime culture shared by all nations bordering the world's oceans; and

WHEREAS, These tall ships serve as floating educational institutions and as ambassadors of good will for their nations; and

WHEREAS, These visits strengthen the bonds of friendship between California and the nations of visiting ships; and

WHEREAS, These tall ships events bring people from diverse nations and cultures together with visiting sailors from across the ocean in a shared sense of excitement that is truly unique in joining appreciation for maritime history and traditions in celebrations that are an extraordinary cross-cultural experience; and

WHEREAS, These events have served to bring tall ships and young sailors from North America and around the world to the shores and harbors of the United States each year in friendly international competition and in celebration of the enduring values of teamwork, adventure, and courage that built a great society in North America; and

WHEREAS, The visits of these tall ships increased California's citizens', especially students, appreciation for California's rich maritime history and traditions dating back to the earliest days of its recorded history; and

WHEREAS, These visits received widespread national and international media coverage and boosted California's status as a worldwide, international, economic power; and

WHEREAS, These visits assisted the economies of the ports by drawing large crowds to visit the tall ships, with average attendance at each port between 300,000 and 500,000 visitors; and

WHEREAS, California has seen an increase in foreign tall ship visits as a result of the efforts of the sponsors of these events, California port cities, the State Coastal Conservancy, and the Legislature; and

WHEREAS, The San Diego Maritime Museum, the Los Angeles Maritime Institute, and the San Francisco host committee have joined together to host a tall ships event once again in 2008; and

WHEREAS, In 2008, the great historic California ports cities of San Francisco, Los Angeles, and San Diego will again serve as hosts to these gatherings of tall ships that evoke the history of California in the climactic phase of the heroic age of sail; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, by the Assembly of the State of California, the Senate thereof concurring, That the Legislature of the State of California commends the Ports of San Francisco, Los Angeles, and San Diego for hosting these tall ships events; and be it further

Resolved, That the Legislature of the State of California congratulates the nonprofit organizers of the host ports, namely, the San Diego Maritime Museum, the Los Angeles Maritime Institute, and the San Francisco host committee on their efforts to provide a warm California welcome to the tall ships of the Tall Ships Festival 2008, and for their commitment to the important work carried on by those tall ships; and be it further

Resolved, That the Legislature of the State of California commends the State Coastal Conservancy for its steadfast encouragement and financial support for these tall ships events as part of its charter; and be it further

Resolved, That the Legislature of the State of California invites the tall ships of the world to participate in the Tall Ships Festival 2008, especially the tall ships of the navies of Argentina, Belgium, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, Indonesia, Italy, Japan, Mexico, The Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Spain, Sweden, United States, Uruguay, and Venezuela, and that they continue to visit California for the mutual benefits derived from these visits; and be it further

Resolved, That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly transmit copies of this resolution to the author for appropriate distribution.